

FIG. 1 (PRIOR ART)

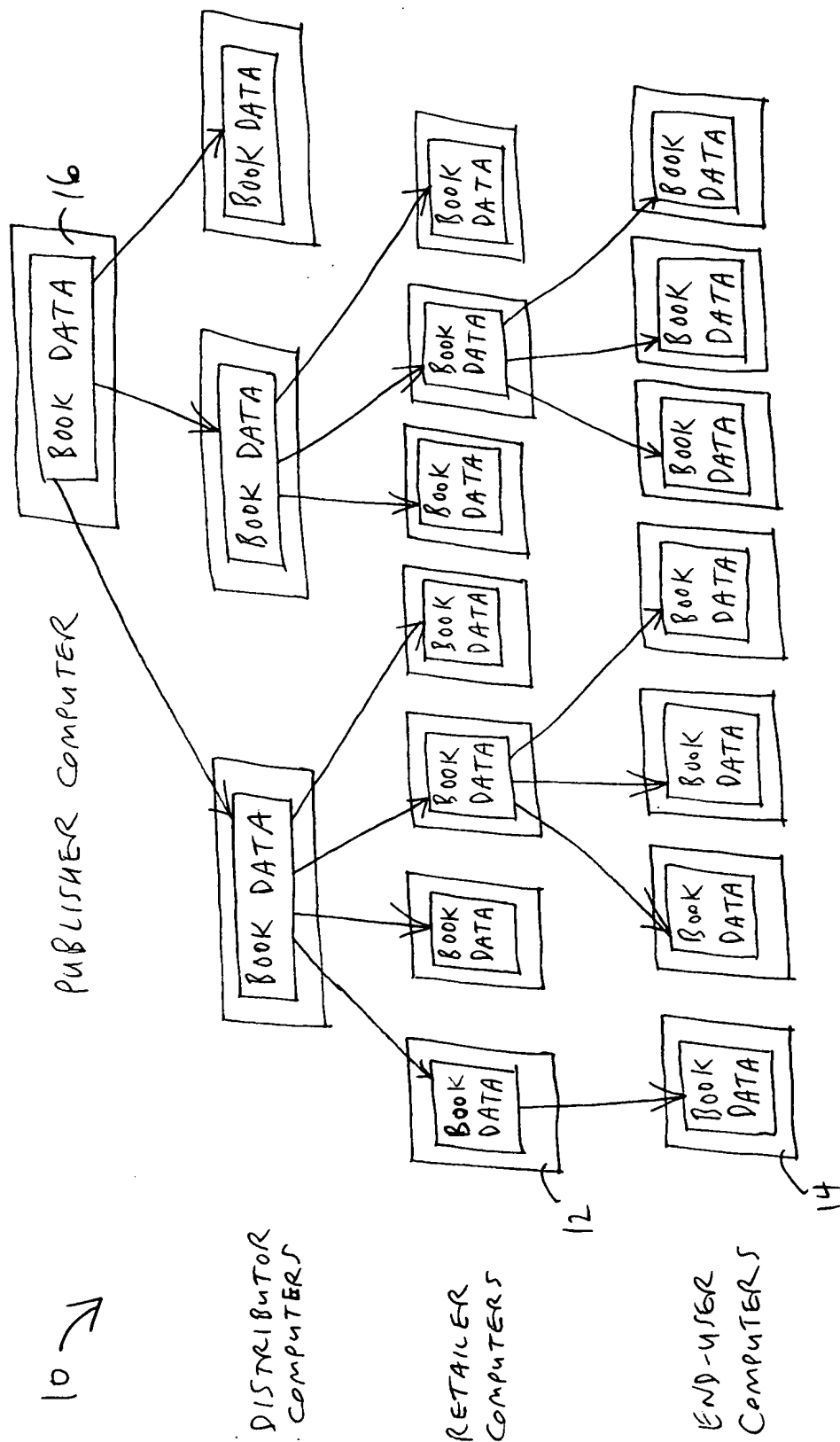


FIG. 2

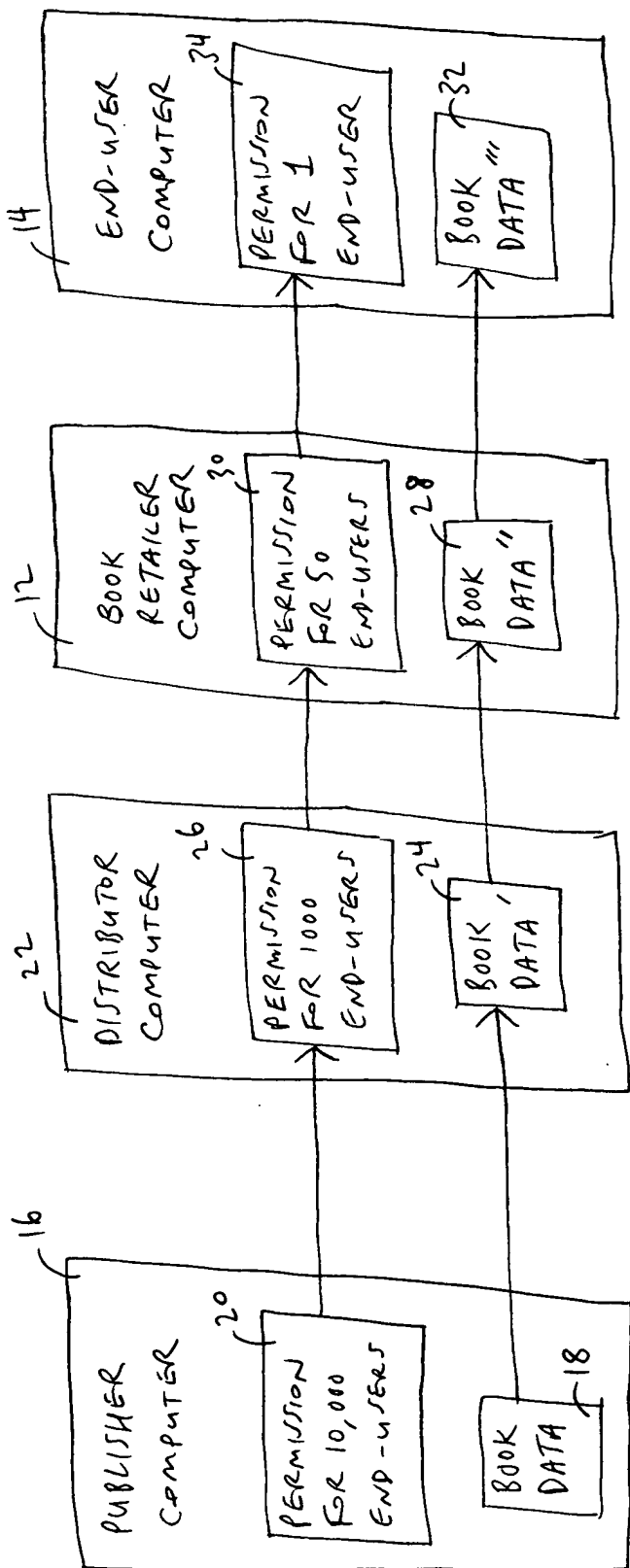


FIG. 3

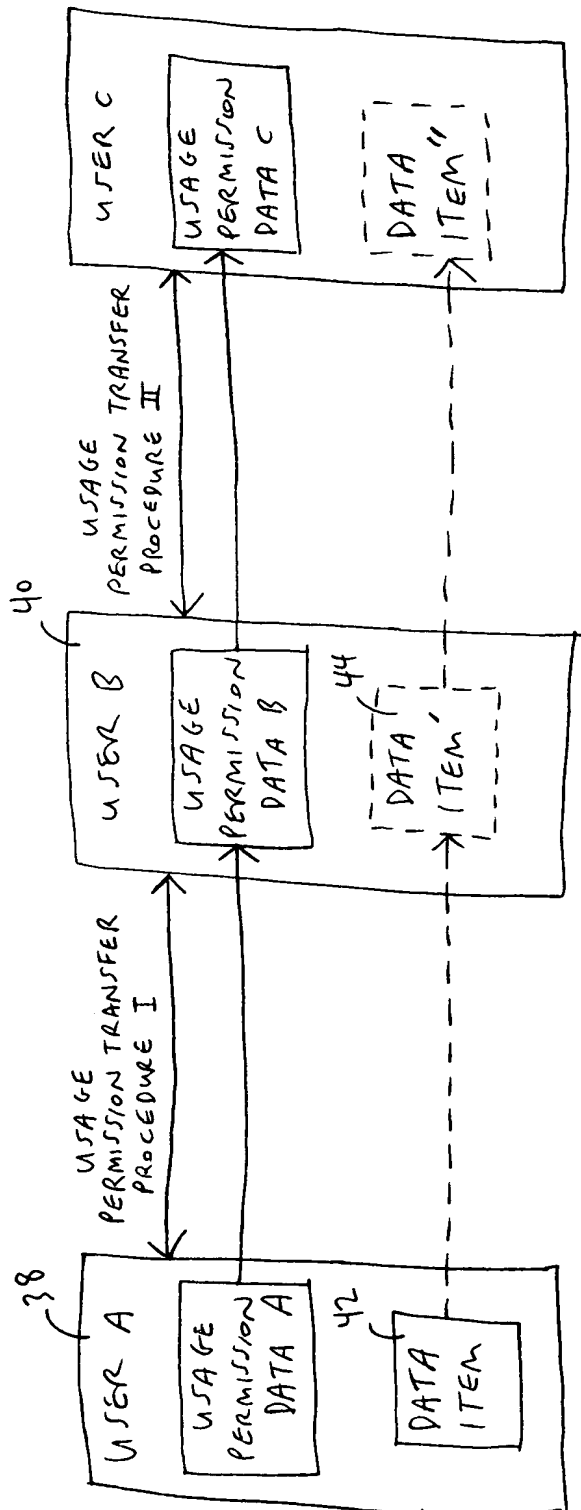


FIG. 4

AT THE SENDER COMPUTER, DETERMINE WHETHER THE RECIPIENT COMPUTER IS CERTIFIED

1010

IN A SECURE WAY, TRANSMIT PERMISSION DATA FROM THE SENDER COMPUTER TO THE RECIPIENT COMPUTER

1020

IN A SECURE WAY, TRANSMIT A COPY OF THE DATA ITEM FROM THE SENDER COMPUTER TO THE RECIPIENT COMPUTER

1030

AT THE RECIPIENT COMPUTER, GAIN ACCESS TO THE DATA ITEM IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PERMISSION DATA

1040

FIG. 5

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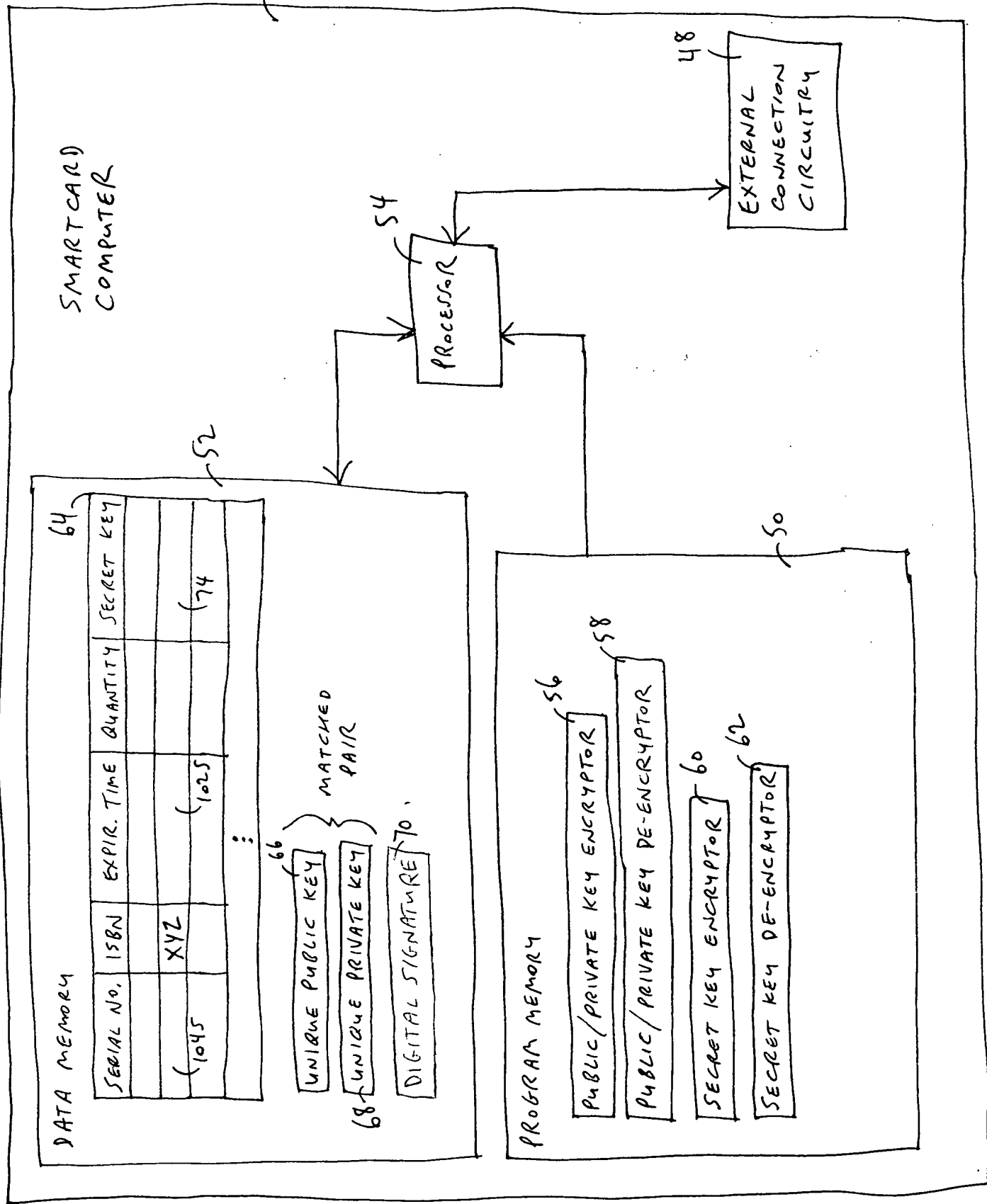


FIG. 6

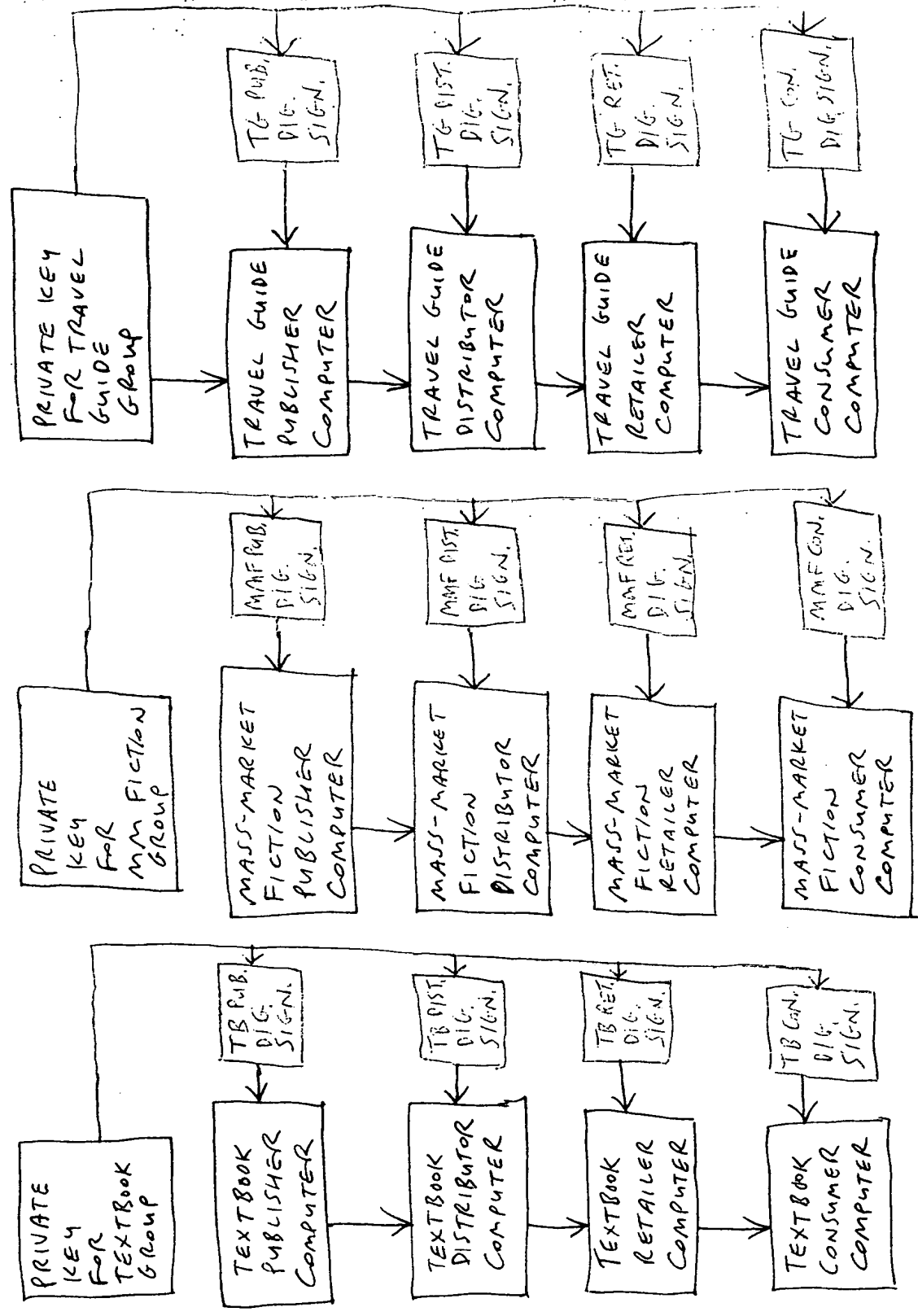
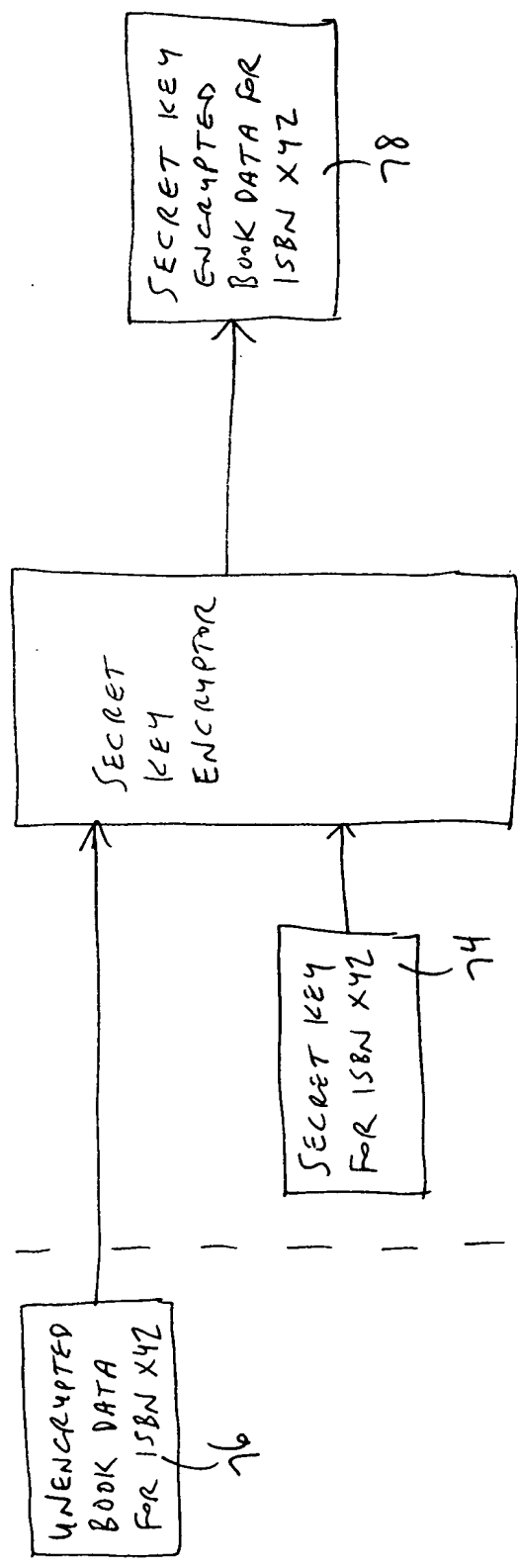


FIG. 7



PUBLISHER
COMPUTER

EXTERNAL
SOURCE

FIG. 8

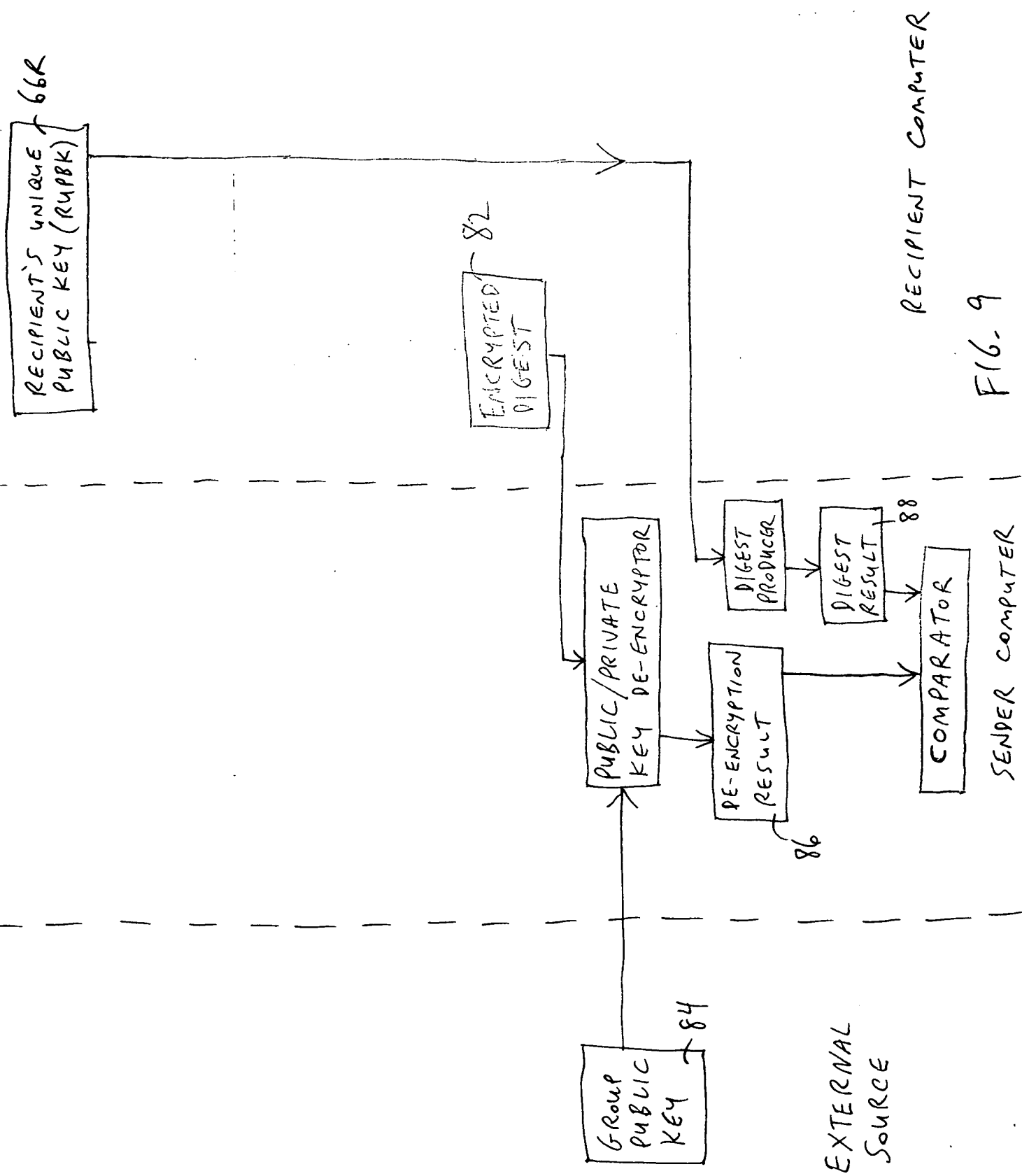
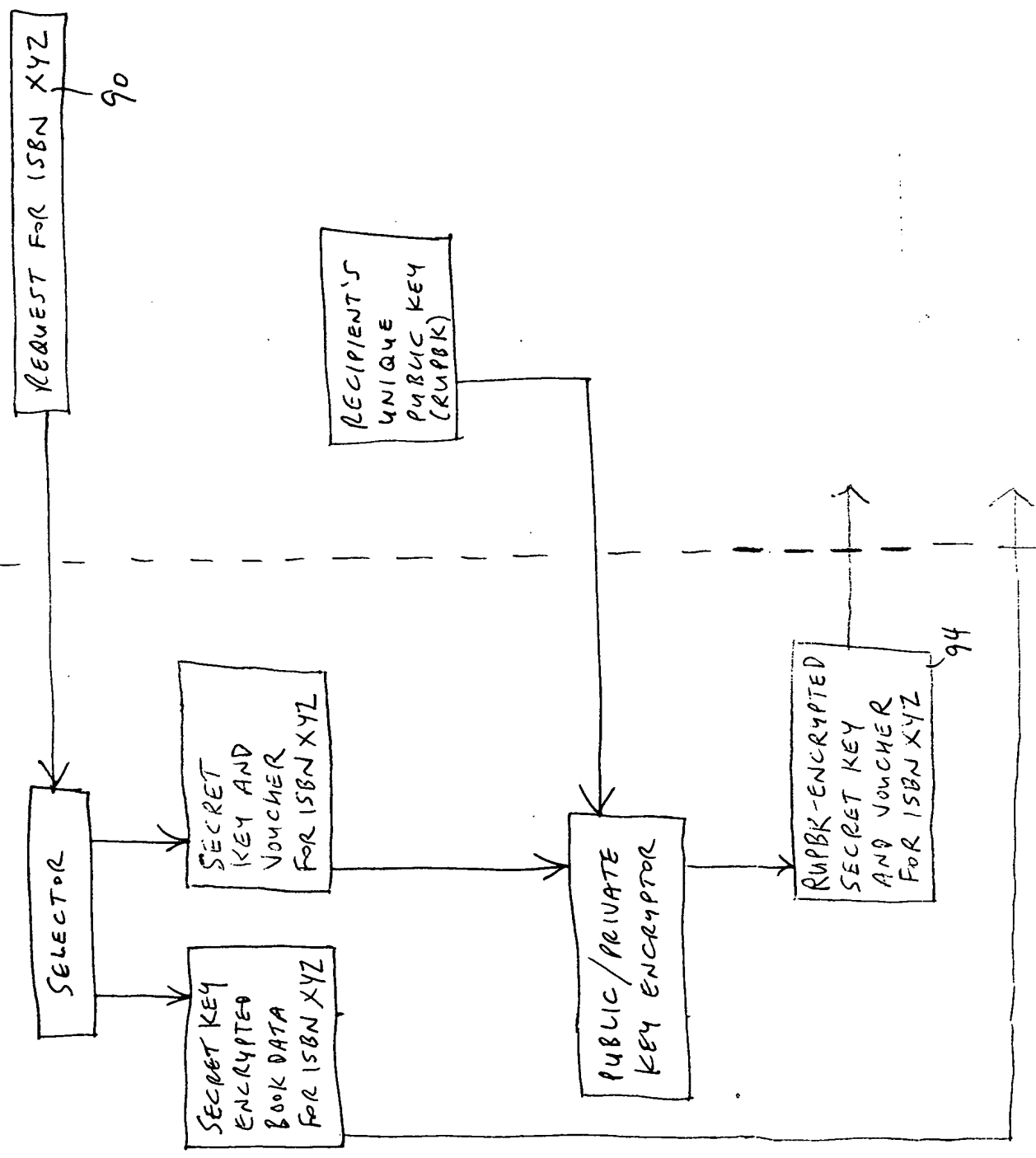
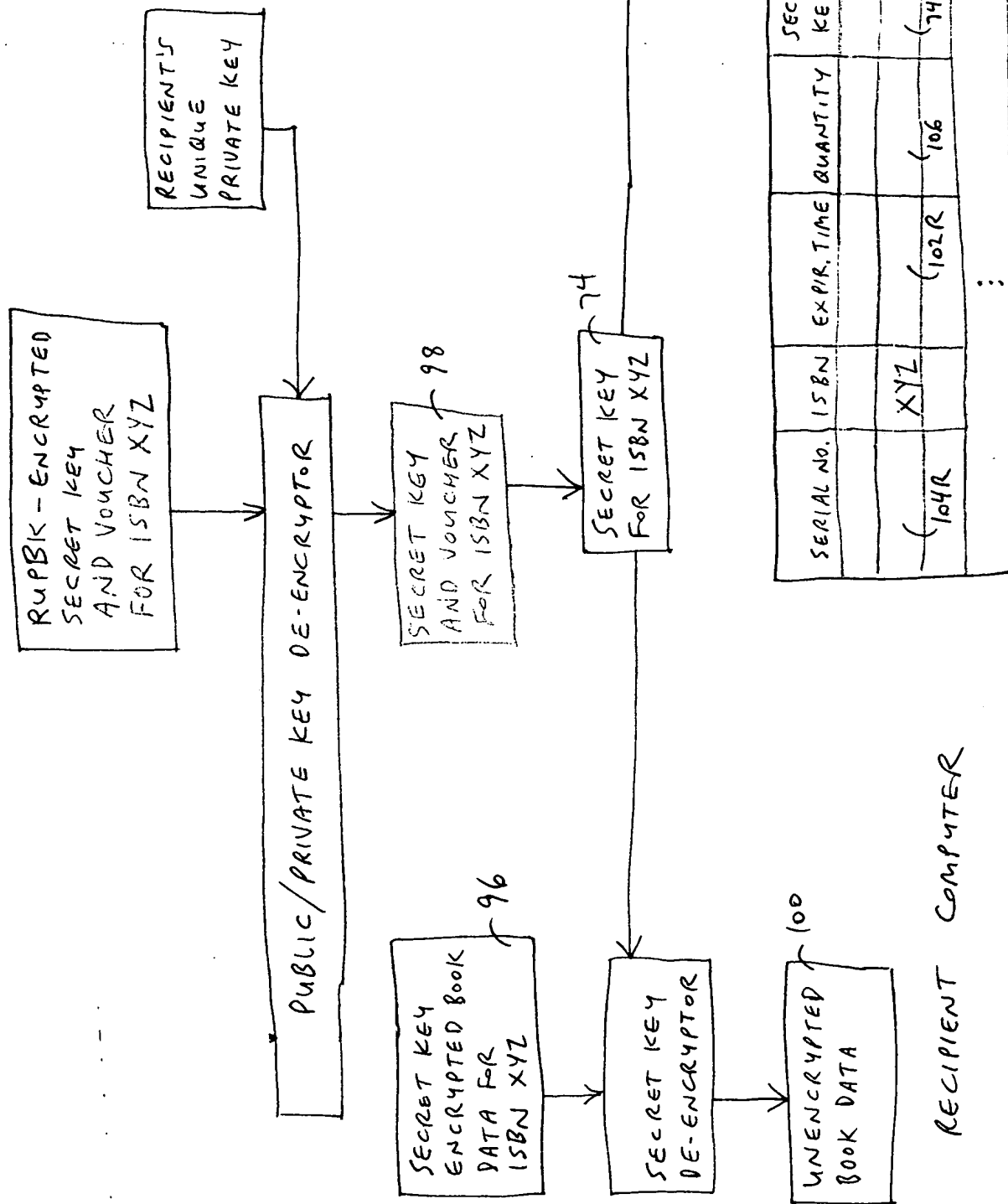


FIG. 9



RECIPIENT COMPUTER

FIG. 10



RECIPIENT COMPUTER

FIG. 11

72
USING A SECRET KEY, ENCRYPT BOOK DATA
TO PRODUCE SECRET KEY ENCRYPTED BOOK DATA 2010

STORE SECRET KEY ENCRYPTED BOOK DATA
AT SENDER COMPUTER 2020

TRANSMIT ENCRYPTED DIGEST TO SENDER
COMPUTER FROM RECIPIENT COMPUTER 2050

TRANSMIT RECIPIENT'S UNIQUE PUBLIC KEY
TO SENDER COMPUTER FROM RECIPIENT COMPUTER 2060

AT SENDER COMPUTER, USE A GROUP PUBLIC
KEY TO DE-ENCRYPT THE ENCRYPTED DIGEST
TO PRODUCE A DE-ENCRYPTION RESULT 2070

AT SENDER COMPUTER, PRODUCE A DIGEST
RESULT FROM THE RECIPIENT'S UNIQUE PUBLIC
KEY 2080

↓
(A)

FIG. 12

(A)
AT SENDER COMPUTER, COMPARE DIGEST RESULT
TO DE-ENCRYPTION RESULT TO DETERMINE WHETHER
RECIPIENT COMPUTER IS CERTIFIED AND IS
THEREFORE AUTHORIZED TO RECEIVE BOOK DATA

2090

AT SENDER COMPUTER, IF IT IS DETERMINED THAT
THE RECIPIENT COMPUTER IS NOT CERTIFIED,
REFUSE TO HONOR THE RECIPIENT COMPUTER'S
REQUESTS FOR BOOK DATA

2100

TRANSMIT A REQUEST FOR BOOK DATA FROM RECIPIENT
COMPUTER TO SENDER COMPUTER

2110

TRANSMIT RECIPIENT'S UNIQUE PUBLIC KEY FROM
RECIPIENT COMPUTER TO SENDER COMPUTER

2120

AT SENDER COMPUTER, SELECT ENCRYPTED BOOK
DATA AND A SECRET KEY AND VOUCHER
CORRESPONDING TO THE REQUEST

2130

AT SENDER COMPUTER, USE RECIPIENT'S UNIQUE
PUBLIC KEY TO PRODUCE
ENCRYPTED SECRET KEY AND VOUCHER

2140

TRANSMIT
BOOK DATA TO RECIPIENT COMPUTER FROM SENDER
COMPUTER

2150

(B)
FIG. 13

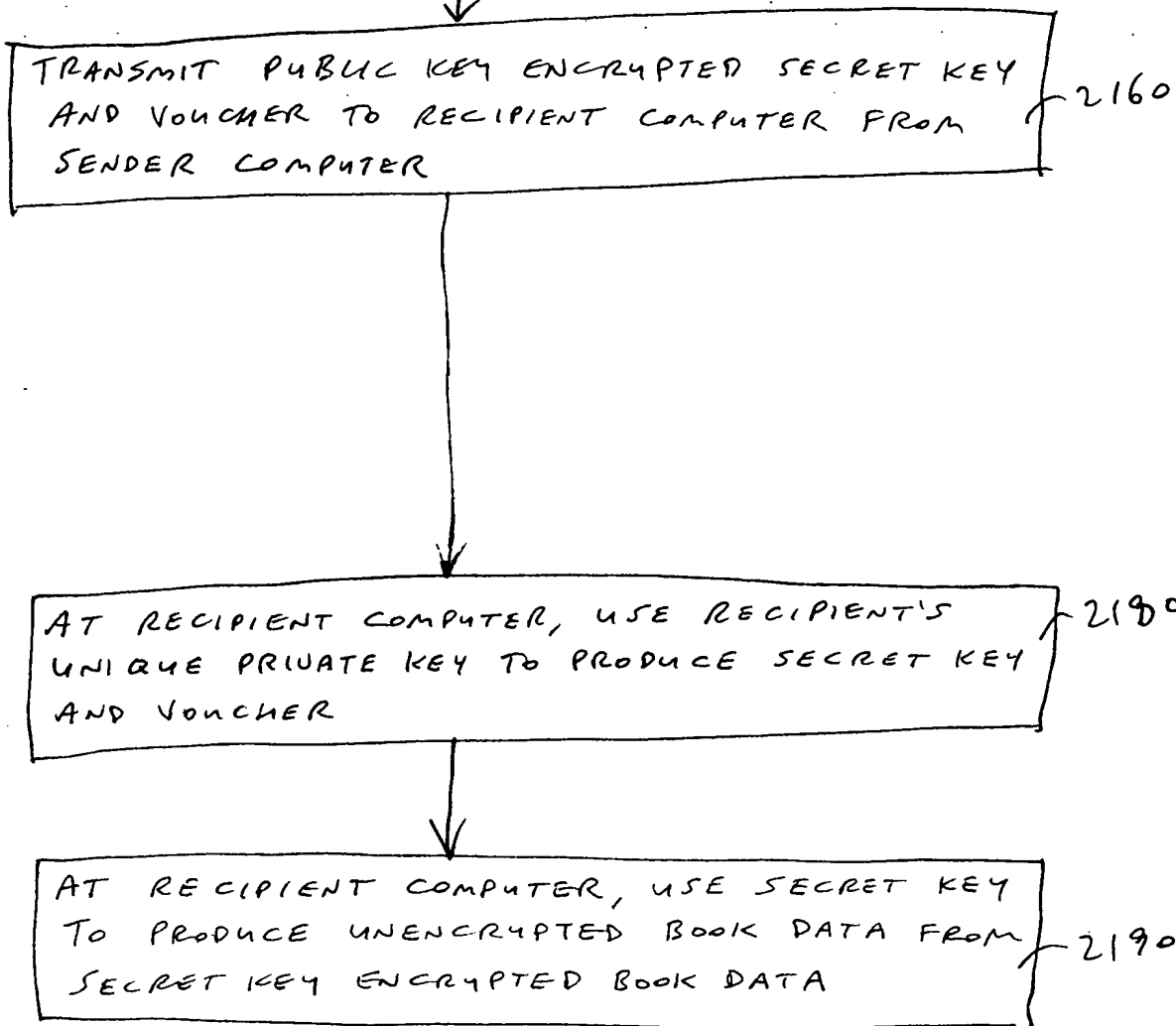


FIG. 14



FIG. 15